

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2 through 20 are presently pending. In an office action mailed August 5, 2003 (Paper No. 3), claims 1-3 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,880,645 granted to Everitt, et al. (hereinafter "*Everitt*"). Applicants appreciate
5 the indication that claims 8-20 are allowed, and that claims 4, 5, and 7 would be allowable if amended to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The claim rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 4, 5, and 7 have been non-substantively amended to incorporate the limitations of the independent claim, and are thus in condition for allowance. Claims 2, 3, and 6 have been
10 amended to depend from claim 4, and are allowable at least for the reasons that they each depend from an allowable base claim and add limitations not found in the prior art. Allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

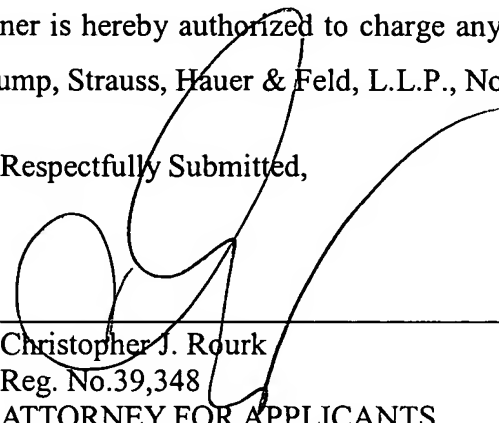
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks and for various other reasons readily apparent, Applicants submit that all of the claims now present are allowable, and withdrawal of the rejections and a Notice of Allowance are courteously solicited.

5 If any impediment to the allowance of the claims remains after consideration of this amendment, a telephone interview with the undersigned at (214) 969-4669 is hereby requested so that such impediments may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

No additional fee is believed to be required with this response. If any applicable fee or refund has been overlooked, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee or credit
10 any refund to the deposit account of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, L.L.P., No. 01-0657.

Respectfully Submitted,



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